

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01

H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

FRB-03 DRC-01 NEA-14 /211 W
----- 116292

R 191409Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2679

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CANOERRA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EMINGN ETRD, SW

SUBJECT: ORGANIZATION OF IRON ORE EXPORTING NATIONAL

REF: A. STATE 178114 B. CARACAS 7937

1. SWEDISH PRESS LAST WEEK REPORTED THAT SWEDEN HAD
TURNED DOWN OFFER BY VENEZUELA, ALGERIA, PERU AND INDIA FOR
PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL IRON ORE CARTEL ALONG LINES
OF OPEC NOR OIL PRODUCING
COUNTRIES. SWEDISH MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COMMERCE OFFICIAL SPECULATED THAT SUCH
A MEETING IN CARACAS, IF HELD, WOULD NOT COME TO AN
AGREEMENT. SWEDISH GOVERNMENT, SOURCE SAID, HAD NOT TAKEN
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A POSITION ON PROPOSAL AND POSITION, IF TAKEN, WOULD

REFLECT VIEWS OF SWEDISH IRON ORE EXPORTING COMPANIES.

2. IRON ORE INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES
IN COMMENTS TO PRESS
HAVE DISCOUNTED CARTEL PROPOSAL AND INDICATE
THAT IRON ORE
AND PETROLEUM SITUATIONS
ARE SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT. FOR
EXAMPLE, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SWEDISH GOVERNMENT JOINT ALES
ORGANIZATION FOR IRON ORE FIRM LKAB AND PRIVATE GRIEVANCES,
WHILE CONCEDING IRON ORE PRICES ARE "TOO LOW", CONCLUDED
THAT BETTER SOLUTION TO PROBLEM WAS TO PERMIT FREE MARKET
FORCES TO DECIDE.; SOURCE ADDED THAT HE WAS OPPOSED TO MAKING
"IRON ORE PRICES A POLITICAL AFFAIR".

3. PRES ALSO REPORTS THAT IRON ORE CARTEL PROPOSAL WAS
INITIATED BY THE SO-CALLED CARACAS
GROUP COMPOSED OF TEN
ORE-EXPORTING DEVELOPING NATIONS. SWEDEN HAS PARTICIPATED
ONLY AS AN OBSERVER. A WORKING GROUP WAS CONVENED IN
GENEVA JUNE 15-19, 1984, BUT SWEDEN SENT NO OBSERVER.
RULES REPORTEDLY ALONG OPEC LINE WERE DRAWN UP AT MEETING
FOR DISCUSSION THIS COMING FALL.

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4. COMMENT. NEITHER THE GOS NOR IRON ORE EXPORTING
FIRMS APPEAR NOW TO HAVE ANY ENTHUSIASM FOR THE CARTEL IN
EA.
HOWEVER, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED IN
ORDER TO HEAD OFF ANY SUPPORT WHICH MIGHT DEVELOP IN FUTURE.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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